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The Holy Book of Tobit

ΠΙΣΩΜ ΕΘΟΥΑΒ ΝΤΕ ΤΩΒΙΤ



“Tobias and the Angel,” represents God being nearer to us than we think. God is ready to assist us if we remain faithful to Him.

Written in Aramaic, the original Holy Book of Tobit was lost for centuries. The Greek translation, existing in three different recensions, is our primary source. In 1955, fragments of the Holy Book in Aramaic and in Hebrew were recovered from Cave IV at Qumran. These texts are in substantial agreement with the Greek recension that has served as the basis for the present translation. This Holy

Book tells the story of Tobit, son of Tobiel of the descendants of Asiel, of the tribe of Naphtali.

Tobit was a righteous man who walked in the ways of truth all of his life. He performed many acts of charity for the people around him. He gave food to the hungry, and clothing to the naked. Tobit buried the bodies of the dead of his people who were thrown out behind the wall of Nineveh. One time someone told King Sennacherib that Tobit was doing these things, and the king ordered that he be put to death. Tobit ran away and hid from the king, and all his property was taken away. After a while the sons of Sennacherib killed their father, and appointed Ahikar, which is the son of Tobit’s brother Hanael, the cupbearer. Ahikar interceded for Tobit, and he returned to his family in Nineveh.

The Holy Book of Tobit is like one of the Lord Jesus Christ parables; there may be some historical basis for it but we do not know what it is. The Book of Tobit is a Wisdom Book because it offers instruction on how to live in relation to God and to one’s fellow men. Theological points to look for in the Holy Book are that God is nearer to us than we think and He is ready to assist us if we remain faithful to Him. Love for God must be shown in virtuous deeds and not just in words. We should think highly of burying the dead properly, remaining chaste before marriage, being faithful to one’s wife or husband, prayer, fasting and almsgiving.

Written by a Mighty Arrow
St. Mary, Houston TX

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The Holy Book of Judith

ΠΙΣΩΜ ΕΘΟΥΑΒ ΝΤΕ ΙΟΥΔΙΘ

Written by Sarah Farid
St. George, Tampa FL

Judith was a Protestant omitted canonical Holy Book that



now commonly adheres to the version of the Holy Bible generally following the Greek Septuagint, or most Orthodox or Roman Catholic versions that have throughout the ages been ascribed to. It is included among the so-called “Apocrypha” in the King James Version, and can not be found in the Hebrew Bible. The author of this Holy Book is unknown, and it is written in two parts.

Part One: (chapters 1-7)

King Nebuchadnezzar, who reigned over the Assyrians in the great city of Nineveh, sends General Holofernes to punish the western nations because the western nations wouldn’t join him in a war against Media. So, he went, and every nation except the Israelites submitted. Achior, the leader of the Ammonites, told Holofernes that God will defend the Israelites as long as they remain faithful. But, Holofernes goes ahead and surrounds the Israelites in the ancient Palestinian town of Bethulia, near Jerusalem.

Part Two: (chapters 8-16)

The widow Judith volunteers to deliver the Israelites after rebuking them for losing faith in God when under siege. She goes to the Assyrian camp, pretending to inform them against her people. Holofernes is charmed, and invites her to a banquet in his tent. Holofernes becomes drunk at the banquet, and falls asleep. Judith gets a sword, beheads him, wraps his head in a bag, and takes it to her people. This makes it easy for the Israelites to attack the Assyrians, which now have no leader, and the Assyrians flee in panic. Then they celebrate the victory, and praise the Lord, and go to Jerusalem to offer thanksgiving.



Judith with Holofernes Head

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Have you ever wished for just a little more “wisdom”?

Maybe you thought that having a higher IQ would make it easier to do better in exams or finish your homework a lot faster! Relying on intelligence may help you complete certain tasks faster or better. But if you want to be successful in your life as a whole- including the big picture “eternal life” then seek wisdom.

There was once a man that lived, just like any human who was born into this world (Wisdom chapter 7). Sure he was son of royalty so he received a little bit more attention than the rest of us. But what distinguished him was not the kingship, for many kings have come and gone.

What set him apart was his wisdom. I am sure by now my beloved reader you know who I am talking about. For his name is synonymous with wisdom. Yes, it’s King Solomon. In fact there is a whole book in our Holy Bible called “Wisdom of Solomon”. It’s found in the Orthodox and Catholic Bible. ¹

In reading this awesome Book of the Holy Bible “Wisdom of Solomon” you will find that the profound aim of the Holy Spirit for this Holy Book is to build your soul spiritually and fortify her with Divine wisdom against the currents of evil and the vain lusts of the temporary world.

In Chapter 7 we read about wisdom that “There is in her a spirit that is intelligent, holy, loving the good, all-powerful, overseeing all, and penetrating through all spirits”. What is wisdom but the Holy Spirit of God!